City of Glen Cove – Lead Service Line Replacement Program

About the Lead Service Line Replacement Program

New York's Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 amended Public Health Law to require the New York State Department of Health to implement a Lead Service Line Replacement Program (LSLRP), in an effort to improve drinking water quality and safety by reducing elevated levels of lead in drinking water.

The City of Glen Cove Department of Public Works is working to collect information on residential areas that may have lead water pipes connected to their homes. Residents and property owners located in targeted areas will be contacted for inspection for pipes.

Lead in Drinking Water



Lead can enter drinking water from lead pipes or lead-based solder on water pipes. This can occur when pipes containing lead corrode, especially where the water is acidic or has low mineral content.

Lead can also leach into water inside the home from corroding brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and fixtures with lead solder, particularly when running hot water. Even if you get your water from a private well, there may still be a concern about lead in your water if the plumbing in your home contains lead solder or lead materials.

Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder. Homes built after 1986 have "lead-free" plumbing, but still can contain trace amounts of lead that can dissolve in water. You can reduce potential lead in your water by only using cold water taps for drinking and food preparation and running water for at least 30 seconds or until the water is cold before use (see Steps to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water in Resources section below).

Project Prioritization

Upon confirmation that a lead service line is present, residents will receive an application for participation in the program. Applications will be processed in order of receipt and prioritized by the presence and number of children under 6 years of age in the house, if home is the residence of a pregnant woman, and based on the location of the property.

Priority will be given to residences that are located within a Potential Environmental Justice Area, Orchard Neighborhood, Sea Cliff Avenue Brownfield Opportunity Area, Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District, and/or as otherwise determined by DPW. Priority will also be given to households for which the median household income is less than 150% of the area median income by household size.

More Resources

Learn About Lead

Take Steps to Reduce Lead in Household Drinking Water (Drop Down Menu or an Attached PDF)

- Run water for at least 30 seconds if it hasn't been used in several hours to flush out possible lead or until water is cold before using it for drinking or cooking.
- Use only cold tap water for cooking, drinking or making a baby's formula; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Avoid cooking with or drinking hot tap water; DO NOT USE HOT TAP WATER TO MAKE BABY FORMULA.
- Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- Replace plumbing fixtures if they are found to contain lead with Lead-Free Content Certified Products.
- Use bottled water that is certified by New York State or a Lead Content Certified water filter if your home is served by a lead service line, or if lead-containing plumbing

materials are found in your home. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to maintain and replace all water filters.

While supplies last, New York State is offering a free lead test to check your household drinking water. Certified commercial laboratories can also test for lead in drinking water. The cost ranges from \$15 to \$50 per sample. Watch this NYS DOH video for steps for testing your drinking water for lead.

The easiest way to find out if you have a lead service line is by doing a "scratch test." First, identify where the water service line enters the building. This is typically in a basement or near a water meter. Next, identify a test area on the pipe between the point where it enters the building and the inlet valve before the water meter. Using the flat edge of a screwdriver, gently scratch the outside of the pipe. If the pipe is easily scratched (i.e. the pipe is relatively soft) and the scratched area is shiny and silver, it is likely a lead service line. **Note: a magnet will not stick to lead pipe.**

EPA Lead and Copper Rule: Quick Reference Guide

Free Lead Test Pilot Program

Lead Service Line Replacement Program

Lead Testing of School Drinking Water

Recommended Tap Sampling Procedures for the Lead and Copper Rule (EPA)

Optimal Corrosion Control Treatment Evaluation Technical Recommendations (EPA)

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